

[13th March 1928]

Mr. V. RAMJEE RAO:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the facts are as such? With regard to (b) and (d), will the Government be pleased to place the report on the table?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I cannot give any undertaking."

Illicit sale of liquor in Masulipatam.

* 1722 Q.—Mr. V. RAMJEE RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact

(i) that some of the soda shops in Masulipatam were reported some time ago to be selling liquor secretly,

(ii) that on such a report Mr. H. H. F. M. Tyler, Commissioner of Excise, paid a surprise visit to Masulipatam and held an investigation with a detective staff brought from Ongole or thereabout, and

(iii) that he found the report to be correct; and

(b) what steps the Government have taken to check this evil?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested.

Mr. V. RAMJEE RAO:—"As regards (a) and (b) will the Government be pleased to place the report of investigation on the table?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I cannot give that undertaking."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"No undertaking for anything."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Depressed Classes

Alleged elimination of the "Setti Baliya" community from the list of depressed classes.

1723 Q.—Mr. J. BHEEMAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the "Setti Baliya" community has been eliminated from the list of the depressed classes, and if so, when and for what reasons and for what purposes; and

(b) if the answer to clause (a) be in the affirmative, whether the Government be pleased to reconsider their decision and include the "Setti Baliya" community in the list of the depressed classes?

A.—A circular to this effect was issued in August last but is being withdrawn, as the Commissioner thinks it undesirable to define rigorously the classes who should be treated as depressed.

Utilization of the grants for the benefit of the untouchable classes.

1724 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether from 1st April 1927 to this date the Labour department has drawn any amount for the benefit of the untouchable classes and if so, how much; and

(b) what amount has been spent for the education and housing of the untouchable classes alone during the said period?"

A.—The figures will be published in the next administration report.

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Inspection work done by the Labour Commissioner during his tour.

1725 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Labour Commissioner examines the records of District Labour offices in the mufassal, and whether during his tour he personally inspects the places where measures for the amelioration of the depressed classes are reported to have been taken up by his subordinate officers?

A.—The Government have no reason to believe that the Commissioner fails to make such inspections as he thinks necessary.

Labour

Qualifications for occupying the post of the Labour Commissioner.

1726 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether district experience is one of the essential qualifications required for the Labour Commissioner?

A.—No special qualifications have been prescribed.

III

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

The Secretary laid on the table copies of:

(i) G.O. No. 109, Development, dated 20th January 1928, passing orders on the audit report of the Russellkonda Saw Mill for 1926-27.

(ii) G.O. No. 322 W., dated 2nd February 1928, passing orders on the accounts of Willingdon House, Ootacamund, for 1926 and 1927.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

IV

ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the Tuticorin Port Trust (Amendment) Act, 1927, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on 27th January 1928."

V

STATEMENTS OF THE EX-MINISTERS ON THEIR RESIGNATION.

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, let me thank you, Sir, for your kindness in giving me permission to make a statement before this House explaining the reasons that led to my resignation of the office of the Minister for Public Health and Excise. In making this statement, Sir, I shall try as far as I can, to avoid personalities. But I think, Sir, it will be recognized that it will be impossible for me altogether to desist from making some personal references. Among the causes that led to my